

## DON'T FORGET THE RICH.

A SUPPLEMENT TO "THE THREE R'S."

“**W**E’LL educate the Poor,” you say ; and clearly  
it is right

To try to lead our humble friends from darkness into  
light :

To help their hands, to fill their hearts with feelings  
just and true,

To make them skilled in handicrafts, and wise and  
happy too ;

Yet take with me a wider range, and seek a higher pitch,  
And while you educate the Poor, pray, don’t forget the  
Rich.

The Poor are to be pitied much, of food and clothing  
scant ;

Yet there’s a kind of schooling, too, in poverty and  
want.

They learn to use their eyes and ears, they can’t be idle  
quite ;

They must be up and doing, let the thing be wrong or  
right.

But when no motive stirs the mind, there comes a serious hitch ;  
For laziness and luxury are open to the Rich.

The rich man's son, I therefore think, may claim our pity too :  
He finds no want unsatisfied, he sees no work to do.  
His bed is made : he's softly laid : and when he lists to rise,  
Pleasure invites and Flattery's voice its Siren magic plies :  
Strange power have these confederate foes men's spirits to bewitch ;  
So while we don't neglect the Poor, we'll also mind the Rich.

The rich man's daughter often, too, may mourn a hapless fate,  
If head and heart ne'er learned the art to dignify her state ;  
If life without a task or sphere is miserably spent  
In languor or in levity or peevish discontent :  
Scarce sadder lot has Hood's poor girl, condemned to sew and stitch,  
Than hers the unidea'd maid, the daughter of the Rich.

The untaught Poor are dangerous, they know not what  
they need :

By clamour or pernicious threats they seek their cause  
to speed :

They quarrel with their truest friends ; and look with  
envious glare

On those whose industry and thrift have made them  
what they are.

But all the Blind, of guides bereft, may fall into the  
ditch ;

So give true insight to us all, the Poor as well as Rich.

What citizen can well be worse than one with wealth to  
spend,

Who neither has the power nor will to serve a noble  
end ?

Trained in his body he may be, and taught to race and  
game,

But ignorant of letters and untouched by virtue's  
flame :

Corrupted, nay corrupting too, — it little matters  
which —

Oh, if the vicious Poor are bad, what are the vicious  
Rich ?

If you possess compulsion's power, compel us all to  
learn

How we may best the Good and Bad, the Fair and  
Foul discern :

Let God's great laws, let Britain's weal, be rightly under-  
stood ;

Show us the gain of growing wise, the joy of doing  
good :

Give in the social edifice to each his proper niche,  
And teach their duties and their rights alike to Poor  
and Rich.

In hopes our social ills to cure, our ancient Kings and  
Laws

Built schools and founded colleges to prosper the good  
cause.

There all who came were kindly lured, or led by firm  
control,

To learn whate'er would form the mind or purify the  
soul.

These wise foundations seek to aid and elevate their  
pitch :

You'll benefit both Rich and Poor—by training well the  
Rich.